

IN THE CLAIMS:

1-19 (canceled)

20. (currently amended) A composite film comprising:

amorphous hard carbon composed mainly of carbon and hydrogen,
and containing a silicon carbide ~~and an~~ and a silicon oxide ~~of at~~
~~least one metal~~, characterized in that the atomic % of the ~~at least~~
~~one metal of the carbide is greater than that of the at least one~~
~~metal of the oxide~~ silicon bonded with carbon is greater than that
of the silicon bonded with oxygen.

21. (canceled)

22. (previously presented) A composite film according to
claim 20, wherein the carbide is SiC and the oxide is SiO_x.

23. (currently amended) A composite film according to claim
20, wherein the atomic % of the ~~at least one metal~~ silicon in terms
of total atomic % of the composite film is less than 4 atomic %.
